



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For Information Contact Public Affairs
MICHAEL JOHNS
Telephone: (602) 514-7566

TWO GLENDALE MEN INDICTED THEFT OF CHRISTMAS MAIL

PHOENIX Arizona .-- On January 10, 2006, a federal grand jury returned a 26 count indictment against John Edward Bauer, 38, and Nathaniel Nathan Gatlin, 34, both of Glendale, Arizona.

The 26 count indictment alleges that Bauer and Gatlin removed and took two mail collection boxes, that were bolted to the ground, from United States postal property in Scottsdale and Surprise, Arizona. The alleged thefts occurred on or about December 18 and 19, 2005. They are charged with theft of the contents, which included cash, gift cards, checks, Christmas mail, and other mail that had been mailed to over 1100 persons, and destruction of the collection boxes and some mail.

Paul Charlton, United States Attorney for the District of Arizona, credits the U.S. Postal Inspectors and the Glendale Police Department for an efficient and prompt investigation that led to the arrests and indictment.

The indictment charges the men with violating 18 U.S.C. §§ 2, 1705, and 1708. If convicted, violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 2 and 1705 carry a maximum penalty of three years in prison, a fine of \$250,000 or both; violations of 18 U.S.C. §§ 1708 and 2 carry maximum penalties of five years in prison, a \$ 250,000 fine or both. Both men are in custody awaiting trial.

An indictment is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The prosecution is being handled by Michael J. O'Melia, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

Case Number: CR-06-0014-PHX
Press Release: 2006-008(Bauer_Gatlin)

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